

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01
ITC-01 SP-02 USIA-06 AGRE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00
COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02 EPG-02
SIL-01 STR-04 TRSE-00 CEA-01 /086 W
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FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8459
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
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USEEC, USOECD

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: UNCTAD, ETRD

SUBJ: NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE, UNCTAD, JUTE

CHARGE AND ECMIN DISCUSSED VARIOUS NORTH-SOUTH ECONOMIC
TOPICS WITH BANGLADESH AMB KIBRIA JUNE 20. MAJOR
TOPICS COVERED WERE AS FOLLOWS:

1. CIEC OUTCOME: WHEN ASKED ABOUT MODD OF G-77 AFTER
CIEC, KIBRIA REPORTED THAT THERE WAS DISAPPOINTMENT BUT
NOT SURPRISE OR DESIRE FOR CONFRONTATION. IN RESPONSE TO
HIS ASSERTION THAT CIEC HAD NOT ACHIEVED CONCRETE RESULTS,
WE POINTED TO AGREEMENT ON COMMON FUND AND UNDERTAKING OF
INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES CONCERNING SPECIAL ACTION PROGRAM
AND ODA. HE SEEMED IMPRESSED, PARTICULARLY BY LATTER AND
STATED THAT SMALL LDC DELEGATIONS HAD MAJOR PROBLEM IN
FOLLOWING AND INTERPRETING DEVELOPMENTS SUCH AS THESE.

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CONCERNING CIEC HE SAID ANNEXES TO FINAL COMMUNIQUE NOT
YET AVAILABLE AND THAT CONSEQUENTLY G-77 HAD NOT YET HAD
ORGANIZED DISCUSSION OF RESULTS. CONCERNING OUR RECOUNTING
OF POSITIVE ACTIONS, HE STATED IT WOULD BE USEFUL IF WE
MADE GREATER EFFORT TO EXPLAIN AND PUBLICIZE WHAT WE ARE
DOING. THIS WOULD HELP MODERATE LDC'S RESIST PRESSURES
FROM EXTREMISTS (MANY OF WHOM HAD POLITICAL AXES TO

GRIND). IN PARTICULAR, HE SUGGESTED FORTHCOMING ECOSOC WOULD BE EXCELLENT OCCASION FOR US TO GIVE COMPREHENSIVE STATEMENT OF ITS ACTIVITIES TO ASSIST LDCS, IN PARTICULAR LEAST DEVELOPEDS. MISSION COMMENT: WE SUGGEST THIS IDEA BE CONSIDERED IN PREPARATION OF AMB YOUNG'S OPENING STATEMENT.

2. UNCTAD: WORK ON LEAST DEVELOPEDS: KIBRIA EXPRESSED GREAT DISAPPOINTMENT THAT PLANNED MARCH 1977 UNCTAD MEETING BETWEEN DONORS AND LEAST DEVELOPEDS HAD BEEN CANCELLED BECAUSE OF ISRAEL/ARAB POLITICAL ISSUE. HE ASKED WHAT OUR ATTITUDE WOULD BE TOWARD RESCHEDULING MEETING WITH MORE STRINGENT CRITERION FOR PARTICIPATION. HE INDICATED THERE WAS SOME THOUGHT TO LIMITING PARTICIPATION TO COUNTRIES WHICH WERE NET CONTRIBUTORS TO LEAST DEVELOPEDS OF \$10 MILLION OR MORE. THIS WOULD EXCLUDE ISRAEL AND SOME OTHER MARGINAL DONORS WHO HAD BEEN INVITED TO ABORTIVE MARCH MEETING. WE NOTED THAT WE HAD ALSO BEEN QUITE DISAPPOINTED THAT THIS MEETING HAD BEEN POSTPONED FOR POLITICAL REASONS AND THAT WE HOPED REASONABLE AND OBJECTIVE FORMULA WOULD BE FOUND TO RESCHEDULE IT.

3. COMMON FUND: KIBRIA NOTED THAT GROUP OF 77 DRAFTING GROUP IS CONTINUING TO WORK HARD TO DEVELOP TEXT WHICH CAN BE TABLED IN ADVANCE OF NOVEMBER RESUMED NEGOTIATING SESSION. HE DID NOT EXPRESS GREAT ENTHUSIASM FOR COMMON LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FUND BUT NOTED THAT IT HAS NOW TAKEN ON GREAT SYMBOLIC IMPORTANCE AND THAT ALL LDCS SUPPORTING IT OUT OF LDC UNITY. HOWEVER, AFRICANS DISENCHANTED SINCE THEY DO NOT EXPECT TO GET MUCH FROM KIND OF FUND THAT CAN REASONABLY BE EXPECTED AND LATIN AMERICANS ALSO UN-ENTHUSIASTIC. PRINCIPLE ACTIVISTS AT THIS STAGE ARE A FEW ASIAN COUNTRIES.

4. TDB MINISTERIAL MEETING: KIBRIA INDICATED BANGLADESH IS PREPARED TO SEE SEPTEMBER MINISTERIAL TDB POSTPONED UNTIL EARLY 1978. HE DID NOT FEEL IT WAS NECESSARY TO HOLD THIS MEETING IN SEPTEMBER SINCE LDCS WOULD BE ABLE TO MAKE POLITICAL PRONOUNCEMENTS CONCERNING CIEC OUTCOME FOLLOWING WEEK AT RESUMED GA 31ST SESSION. HE INDICATED, HOWEVER, THAT SOME OTHER G-77 COUNTRIES FELT THAT MEETING SHOULD BE MAINTAINED AS MEANS OF KEEPING PRESSURE ON. HE DID NOT VENTURE PREDICTION AS TO FINAL OUTCOME.

5. JUTE: KIBRIA INDICATED THAT TWO COMMODITIES OF INTEREST TO BANGLADESH IN UNCTAD INTEGRATED PROGRAM WERE JUTE AND TEA. HE DID NOT SEEM CONCERNED ABOUT TEA.

NOTING MERELY THAT TEA MARKET WAS BOUYANT. HE MADE URGENT PLEA, HOWEVER, THAT US LOOK AT JUTE PROBLEM IN BROADER CONTEXT THAN HE THOUGH WE HAD SO FAR. HE STATED THAT PRODUCERS OF SYNTHETICS COMPETING WITH JUTE HAD NOT RAISED PRICES TO THE EXTENT WHICH WOULD HAVE BEEN EXPECTED AS RESULT OF INCREASES IN PRICE OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS, THEIR BASE PRODUCTS.IHE CONTENDED THERE WAS REAL RISK THAT JUTE WOULD DISAPPEAR AS COMMERICAL PRODUCT WITH SERIOUS REPERCUSSIONS ON BANGLADESH ECONOMY AND BALANCE OF PAYMENTS. IN VIEW OF INTEREST US HAD EVIDENCED IN MAINTAINING AND DEVELOPING BANGLADESH, HE SUGGESTED WE GIVE MORE SYMPATHETIC ATTENTION TO ACHIEVING INTERNATIONAL ACTION ON JUTE. HE INDICATED THAT BANGLADESH IS IN FACT NOW MAINTAINING BUFFER STOCKS WHICH HAVE PREVENTED WIDE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FLUCTUATIONS IN JUTE PRICES AND ADVOCATED THAT INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY HELP CARRY THIS BURDEN.IHE STATED EC HAD BEEN SYMPATHETIC TO PROBLEM BUT UP TO NOW US HAD LIMITED ITSELF TO SUGGESTIONS CONCERNING RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT. SORENSON

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 21-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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